



Sts Michael & John's Parish

Horsham - Dimboola - Murtoa - Natimuk Rupanyup

BULLETIN

5th Sunday of Lent - 2nd April 2017



We welcome Fr John.

Rosters for Holy Week Ceremonies are in the SMJ Church Foyer today.

Please sign up for any Ministry you can assist with from Palm Sunday April 8th/9th to Easter Sunday April 16th. *Thank you.*

A sheet with the **Times for Holy Week Ceremonies** is in the Foyers today, please take a copy.

We welcome to the Family of God in Baptism today at Murtoa:
Anna Louise Delahunty
child of Chris and Brooke.

at Horsham:
Lilly Brown
child of David and Amy.



HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES

Holy Week begins with Passion Sunday next Sunday

We gather outside the Church for the Blessing and Procession of Palms

Branches are available at each Church. You are invited to take a blessed branch home as a symbol of God's peace abiding there.

ANOINTING MASS Tuesday April 11th at 2pm in SMJ Church.

Anointing with newly blessed Oil of the Sick. Cuppa in the Hall after.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Tuesday April 11th at 7pm in SMJ Church.

Hymns, Prayers, Scripture, Examination of Conscience, **individual absolution of sins at the end** with Frs Peter and John ministering

HOLY THURSDAY MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Thursday April 13th at 7.30pm in SMJ Church.

Reception of the New Oils, Washing of the Feet. Mass ends with the Procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose in the Church at the Tabernacle

All are invited to pray before the Blessed Sacrament to 10pm

"Could you not pray one hour with Me" said Jesus.

Children for the Sacraments this year are invited to have their feet washed. Fr Peter will come to the children in their family seat for this washing. Jesus washed his disciples' feet as a call to service of others.

GOOD FRIDAY CEREMONY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Friday April 14th at 3pm in SMJ Church.

The Passion of John is read, Intercessions prayed, Collection for the Holy Places, Holy Communion, the Altar is stripped.



EASTER VIGIL AND MASS OF THE RESURRECTION

Saturday April 15th at 7.30pm in SMJ Church.

We begin outside the Church with the Lighting of the Easter Fire.

We Process the Easter Candle into the Church. The Exultet is sung.

OT Readings. Mass of the Resurrection. Renewal of our Baptismal Promises.

Blessing of the people with Easter Water.

At the end of Mass you are invited to take home a bottle of blessed Easter to bless your family and home.

+ Easter Mass on Holy Saturday April 15th at Murtoa at 7.30pm.

+ Easter Sunday Masses April 16th: Horsham 10.30am. Dimboola 8.30am



WEEK-DAY MASSES:

Tuesday 4th April	5.30pm	Anne Kerr 1st anniv. Nell O'Connor 1st ann
Wednesday 5 April	9.30am	
Thursday 6th April	9.30am	
Friday 7th April	9.30am	St John Baptist de la Salle
Saturday 8th April	10.00am	

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, my creator, breathe on me, renew me, refresh me, extend my abilities, comfort me in adjusting to changes in health, mobility and activity. Body of Jesus Christ flow through every fibre of my being. Keep me well, and hope filled, always. Holy Spirit use me in my situation, for the good of others. Amen



Please Remember in Your Prayers	
RECENT DEATHS:	
ANNIVERSARIES: Nell O'Connor, Ann Kerr, Kathleen Parkinson, David Owens.	
SICK: Kobe Davidson, Ruby Spasic, Peter Kelly, Corey Panozzo, Brian Rice, Carmel Cannard, Joy Flynn, Madeleine Cameron, John Coleman, Carmela Baviello, Peter Laskey, Lyn Cooper, Frances Mitchell, Judy Francisco, Jill & Christie Higgenbottom, Lorrain Holland, Xavier Reicha, Eileen & Bob Arnott, Joan White, Terry Turvey, Joan Glen, Fr Damian Heath heart valve operation Tuesday April 4th	
Emergency Care: Contact Betty 53826688	
Confessions Saturday 10.25	
Saturday Morning Devotions: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9 to 9.20. Rosary 9.20. Prayer of the Church 9.35. Mass 10.	
Next Sunday - 2nd Sunday of the Month Passion of our Lord - 9th April 2017	
Horsham	Saturday - 6.30pm. Sunday - 10.30am
Dimboola	Sunday Mass 8.30am
Murtoa	Sunday Mass 10.30am
Rosary, Litany of Mary & Divine Mercy Chaplet HORSHAM Wednesdays at 4.30pm. All welcome.	
Regular Activities in the Parish	
Mother's Prayer Group Fortnightly Every Wednesday 2.00pm Church Meeting Room Contact Marina 5382 1047	
Craft Group Every Monday - Parish Meeting Room Mornings - 9.30am to 11.30am. Evening - 7pm to 9pm. BYO	
Meditation Group in Church Meeting Room Tuesdays 2.00pm. Contact Sr Jacinta 0414 337 807	
CWL Meetings 1st Tuesday of Month 1.30pm. Meeting Room.	
Men's Group Meet 3rd Thursday of the month, breakfast 7.30am-8.30, Parish Centre. Contact Patrick 0428 847 455	
St Vincent de Paul Conference. Meets twice monthly. Available Monday & Friday 11am-12pm, for assistance. Phone 5381 2371	
BAPTISM PREPARATION held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. Contact the Parish Office 53821155,	
Piety Stall in the Church has gifts for Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, cards, medals etc., Peru crosses.	
CHOIR PRACTICE 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6pm.	
Affordable Counselling , by Centacare Ballarat, for families individuals, Free call 1300 303 988 to make an appointment.	
I saw Fr Damian Heath last Monday. Since September 2016 he has had a series of blood clots near the heart that have required frequent adjustments to his medication to treat them, with a few stays in hospital. They seem under control now. Next Tuesday April 4th he is going to have his long awaited heart valve operation at St Vincents, a four hour operation 12 - 4 on Tuesday. After that he will be able to resume his duties, including wanting to come here each month. He sends his best regards to all, and I assured Damian of our prayers.	
Rupanyup Mass this Wednesday 5th at Sue Tyler's at 6.30pm.	
Natimuk Nursing Home Mass this Thursday 6th at 4.15pm. All welcome	

ROSTERS		
April 1/2	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Pat Glaubitz	Kingsley Dalgleish
	Bernadette Trounce	Faye Wills
	Maree Plazzer	Cate Rigby
	Bob Hayes	Tim Lannen
	John Parker	Mary Dalgleish
	Tess Hayes	Russell Reid
		Zita Cannane
April 8/9	Vigil 6.30pm	Sunday 10.30am
Readers	Maree Plazzer	Anna Robertson
Commentator	Garry Heinrich	Kingsley Dalgleish
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Silvanna Foster	Alison McKinnon
	Ann Hermans	Anna Robertson
	Anthony Amor	Andrea Cox
	Lorraine Clancy	Bob Pritchett
	Micky Roberts	Neville Strachan
	Rosie Taylor	Karen Hill
	Sr Jacinta Rice	
Projector	Peter Gutteridge	Gabby Mills
Musicans	Chris Roberts	Men's Choir
Welcomers	Bob & Tess Hayes	Helene Bush Marina Manserra
Prayers	Lesley Price & Mary Dalgleish	
Church Cleaning & Flower Arranging	9th April	Holy Week Volunteers to make the Church ready for Easter.
	Anna Robertson	
	Jenny Clarke	
	Bernie Lakin	
	Rhonda Tursi	
FINANCE: 1st Collection - Plate (Presbytery Acct)		
Natimuk	\$ 37.00	Murtoa \$ 85.00
Horsham	\$ 918.00	Dimboola \$ 92.00
Total		\$ 1132.00
2nd Collection - Green Bag (Parish Account)		
Credit Card and Direct Debit figures are monthly totals		
Envelopes	\$ 2290.00	Loose \$ 148.85
Credit Card	\$	Direct Debit \$ 945.00
Total		\$ 3383.85
Making Connections: When Jesus calls forth Lazarus from death and the darkness of the tomb to new life, we have echoes of Christian belief in the power of baptism. The same symbolism is spoken of in the baptismal ceremony. When baptism is performed by full emersion, this symbolism is even more powerful. Did you Know: Popular Jewish belief was that the soul hovered near the body for three days after death. The ‘fourth day’ indicates that Lazarus is well and truly passed away, thus making his resuscitation even more amazing.		
Marriage Tip: Do you look into your spouse’s heart? Do you let them look into yours? Cherish the opportunity to go beyond appearances with the one you love.		
Daily Prayer: As once in the vision, O God, your prophet summoned the spirit so that dry bones stood up alive, and as once your Son stood fearless at death’s door calling Lazarus to come forth alive, raise us up with Christ from the death of sin, that all of us, the elect and the baptised, may be unbound and set free.		
A Vocation View: Seeing physically dead people return to life is not a common event. But Christians, serious about their vocation, are eager to help the "down and out" find new meaning in Christ and live a full life		

Country Mass Times

April 9: Passion Sunday: Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30
April 15: Easter Vigil and Mass: Murtoa 7.30pm
April 16: Easter Sunday: Dimboola 8.30.
April 23: Natimuk 8.30. Dimboola 8.30. Murtoa 10.30
April 30th: Dimboola Mass 8.30am. **Murtoa Mass 8.30am**

Mass of the Oils will be celebrated in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat at 6.30pm on Monday, April 10. This Mass is a celebration of the whole Church of the Diocese of Ballarat. We celebrate the unity and ministry of the ordained priests in the midst of the entire priestly people of God and Diocese. This Mass also has special significance for those who will use the blessed oils in 2017, the ordained, the sick, those to be baptized and confirmed. All are invited to this celebration.



Good Friday Way of The Cross

Natimuk: April 14th at 10am
start outside Lutheran Church. Finish at Nursing Home. All Welcome.

Dimboola: 10.00am
Rupanyup: 9.00am

O God, in Autumn, bless our lands with good seasonal rain

SACRAMENT DATES for Children in 2017

Parent Meeting for Confirmation and First Communion: Thursday April 20th from 5.30pm to 6.30pm in the Parish Centre. **Fr Elio Capra** will speak to our Sacrament Families.

Masses for Confirmation / First Communion:

Sunday May 28th 10.30am Mass
Saturday June 3rd 6.30 Mass.
Sunday June 4th 10.30 Mass
Saturday June 17th 6.30 Mass
Sunday June 18th 10.30 Mass.

Confirmation and First Communion Murtoa and Rupanyup Sunday **Oct 15th** 10.30 Mass at Murtoa. Reconciliation will be celebrated in September.

On Thursday April 20th at 7.30, in the Parish Centre, **Fr Elio Capra** will speak to us on *Pope Francis's Approach and Vision for the 21st century*. Fr Elio is an inspiring and instructive Lecturer. All welcome.

Flowers for Holy Thursday and Easter are welcome. Please leave in the Church on Wednesday April 12th.

DISCOVER WHAT
SETS US APART
AT OUR 2017 OPEN DAY



St BRIGID'S COLLEGE OPEN DAY Sunday May 7th

CWL Meeting this TUESDAY April 4th in the Parish Meeting Room at 1.30pm. All Welcome



Prayerful best wishes and congratulations to these Couples on their Weddings:

Kate Rogers and Luke Byrne at SMJ on March 25th

John Delahunty and Eve Lindsay, Warracknabeal, 25/3.
Clare Hallam and Jake McInerney at Laharum on April 1

5th Sunday of Lent: When Jesus heard about the illness of Lazarus, He said through it the Son of God is glorified." Every aspect of our lives - our gifts as well as our sufferings - can, if surrendered to Christ, lead to blessing for others and ourselves.

SEDER MEAL Wednesday April 1th at 7pm in the Parish Centre. **BOOKING FORMS** are in the **Foyer**. The Meal celebrates the Passover Meal at which Christ instituted the Eucharist and washed the feet. \$8 a person, \$30 a family. Booklets provided. Please indicate If you can bring a salad or a dessert.



5th Sunday Lent Story: Fiji

Semiti says, "*Through the voice of the poor we can become one, and it's very powerful.*"

Semiti grew up in an informal, or 'squatter', settlement in Fiji. More than a quarter of Fiji's people live in these settlements, with little hope of finding permanent housing and land. Their situation is particularly vulnerable – many live in unstable shelters, and there is a constant threat of extreme climate events. Children have few opportunities for education, and unemployment levels are high. There is little access to public services such as roads, water supply, electricity, garbage collection. Semiti is working together with other residents of informal settlements to make positive changes. He is the Director of the People's Community Network (PCN), which Caritas Australia supports. PCN helps empower landless people in Fiji, enabling them to address the issues that affect their lives. The network helps people in each settlement to advocate together to improve their living conditions. They work in committees on issues relating to health and hygiene; care of the elderly and of women who need empowerment; education needs; and unemployment. Semiti and other informal settlement residents tell how PCN helps them work together as neighbours, in solidarity. Through their participation in housing, savings and education programs, they have formed common bonds, have grown in resilience and in dignity.

Child Safety Standards. St Michael & John Parish has appointed Bob Pritchett as our Safeguarding Officer. We have a **Child Safety Policy** to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children in our care. A **Child Safety Code of Conduct** has been adopted for all who work with children in the Parish.

1st Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

The Lord says this: I am going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this - it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 129

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.
Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice! O let your ear be attentive to the voice of my pleading.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive? But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word. My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak. (Let the watchman count on daybreak and Israel on the Lord.) Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption, Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

2nd Reading : Romans 8:8-11

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not

in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Acclamation: John 11:25. 26

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: John 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.' Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of

God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life, If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him 'Lord by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me. But I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.' When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

**Gospel Reflection - 5th Sunday Lent
Sr Veronica Lawson rsm**

Today's readings touch into the most profound of human mysteries, the mysteries of life and death. To hold a new born child or to see a sick person restored to health is to experience the wonder of life. On the other hand, the unexpected death of a loved one can bring unimagined grief and pain. Death brings tears, even anger. Little wonder that "life" becomes a metaphor for transformation and new beginnings or that "death" so often signifies deprivation and loss. The gospel reading is about the death and restoration to life of Lazarus, "the one whom Jesus loved". It is the last of the seven "signs" in John's "book of signs" that reveal the "glory" of God. It is also the greatest of Jesus' signs. It functions

as a catalyst for the events that lead to his death: "...from that day on they planned to put him to death" (11:53). It provides the occasion for Jesus to assert 'I am the resurrection and the life' and to invite assent to that revelation of his identity. It reveals the compassion and tender heart of Jesus who weeps at the grief of Mary his friend and the death of her brother. It also reveals the goodness in the hearts of those "Jews" who share her grief and who come to faith in Jesus who raises the dead to life. Though the story revolves around the plight of Lazarus, Martha and Mary are the characters who, with Jesus, occupy centre stage in the narrative and into whose faith journey we are invited to enter. The women are introduced before Lazarus. Martha and Mary are identified as "sisters" who live in

Bethany. Are they blood "sisters" or sisters in their love of Jesus, their faith commitment to him, or both? Lazarus is Mary's sick "brother". There is no mention at the outset of his relationship to Martha, though she later claims him as her "brother". Might they all be part of a little faith community in Bethany rather than biological siblings? A brief notice alerts the reader to the imminent death of Jesus: "Mary is the one who anointed Jesus with perfumed oil and wiped his feet with her tears". The details of that story are yet to be narrated. The reader will later discover that Mary's anointing of Jesus is "for the day of [his] burial". As so often in John's gospel, misunderstanding and irony function to bring the actors in the drama and us as actors in the theatre of Christian life to new levels of understanding and faith.

**Next Weeks Gospel: Passion Sunday
The Passion of Matthew**

26:14 - 27:66

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Divine Mercy Sunday April 23rd

A safe, blessed and happy
School holidays.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Hudson
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Diocesan Website:
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Daylight Saving
ENDS tonight
Sunday April 2.
Before you go to
bed tonight turn
your clocks
BACK one hour